

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 01606 271511Z

61

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAB-01 DRC-01 /138 W

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R 271236Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5905

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USINT DAMASCUS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY SANAA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION USUN VKW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 1606

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL - BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EG

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN/PALESTINIAN COMMITTEE TO COORDINATE GENEVA TALKS

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PAGE 02 CAIRO 01606 271511Z

1. AHRAM MARCH 26 HAS EXCLUSIVE REPORT THAT GOE AND PLO

HAVE AGREED TO FORM JOINT COMMITTEE TO COORDINATE A JOINT STAND VIS A VIS DEVELOPMENTS IN MIDDLE EAST, PARTICULARLY MATTERS CONNECTED WITH PALESTINAIN ROLE AT GENEVA CONFERENCE. REPORTEDLY, COMMITTEE WILL BEGIN WORK AT BEGINNING OF APRIL.

2. ACCORDING TO NEWSPAPER, SADAT HAS ISSUED DIRECTIVE APPOINTING FM FAHMYAS HEAD OF EGYPTIAN SIDE, AND ARAFAT IS EXPECTED TO FORM PALESTINIAN DELEGATION WHICH WILL INCLUDE "A NUMBER OF RESISTANCE COMMANDS".

3. AS RESULTS OF TALKS HELD AT "HIGHEST LEVEL", COMMITTEE WILL BEGIN WORK BY DISCUSSING TWO WORKING PAPERS. THE FIRST, BEING DRAFTED BY GOE FOREIGN MINISTRY, IS ANALYSIS OF ALL DIMENSIONS OF EXPECTED ME SETTLEMENT. THE SECOND IS BEING DRAFTED BY PLO AND DEALS WITH PALESTINAIN VIEW OF THE "JOINT STAGE".

4. ARTICLE NOTES GOE VIEW OF CURRENT EFFORT TO BRING ABOUT ME SETTLEMENT BY SUMMARIZING STATEMENTS REPORTEDLY MADE BY SADAT TO ARAFAT THREE WEEKS AGO AND TO KHALID AL-HASAN TWO DAYS AGO. SADAT IS QUOTED AS DIVIDING EGYPTIAN POLICY INTO TWO BASIC POINTS. FIRST, EGYPT WILL NEVER FAIL THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, AND SADAT PERSONALLY HAS BEEN FIGHTING FOR PALESTINIANS SINCE 1948. SECOND, GOE POLITICAL EFFORT AT THIS STAGE AIMS NOT ONLY AT EFFECTING ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL BUT ALSO TO GUARANTEE RIGHTS OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. SADAT IS QUOTED AS SAYING "EGYPT WILL NOT ATTEND THE UPCOMING STAGE OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE WITHOUT SYRIA. EGYPT AND SYRIA WILL NOT DISCUSS ANY SETTLEMENT UNLESS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE ARE PRESENT".

5. COMMENT: MFA UNDERSECRETARY MUHAMMED RIAD, WHEN ASKED ABOUT ABOVE PRESS REPORT, CONFIRMED SUCH A COMMITTEE HAS INDEED BEEN FORMED. HE CLAIMED THAT THROUGH THIS DEVICE, GOE BELIEVES IT CAN BETTER "CONTROL" THE PALESTINIANS. HE STATED AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH ARAFAT AS HEAD OF PLO BUT ACKNOWLEDGED IT REMAINS UNCERTAIN WITH PALESTINIAN GROUPS WILL BE FACT PARTICIPATE. EILTS

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